- Besides the inintial, one time spectrum charge, it has been decided that the successful service provider would pay additional spectrum charge of 0.5% of their total Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), as the recurring annual spectrum charge. The additional revenue share is proposed to be 1% of AGR after 3 year from the date of spectrum assignment.
- The roll out requirements, including rural roll-out, as well as stiff penalities for non compliance of the same has been stipulated.
- Mergers will not be allowed during the initial five years. No trading/reselling of spectrum is allowed.
- The CDMA spectrum in 800 MHz band for EV-DO applications would be treated separately from 2.1 GHz spectrum. If the CDMA based service provides(s) ask for the EV-DO carrier of 2 x 1.25 MHz they would have to pay an amount proportionate to the highest bid for spectrum in 2.1 GHz band.

Resentment against the Communication Policy

†1798. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have made comprehensive changes in the communication policy during the recent past;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there is resentment amongst the members of Cellular Operators Association of India due to the said changes;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the after effects of the said changes; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to defuse this resentment, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) On 17.10.2007, Government has taken a decision on the recommendations dated 28.8.2007 of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on "Review of license terms & conditions and capping of number of access providers". TRAI has made the said recommendation after following a consultation process with the stakeholders including Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

COAI and others have challenged the Government decision on these recommendations in telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) and the matter is *sub-judice.*

Growth in Information Technology

†1799. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi